

021025Z Nov 01

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ACTION AF-00

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|------|---------|--------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| INFO | LOG-00 | NP-00 | ACQ-00 | CIAE-00 | DINT-00 | DODE-00 | DOTE-00 |
| | SRPP-00 | DS-00 | EB-00 | EUR-00 | OIGO-00 | FAAE-00 | FBIE-00 |
| | VC-00 | H-01 | TEDE-00 | INR-00 | L-00 | VCE-00 | AC-01 |
| | NSAE-00 | OMB-01 | OPIC-01 | PA-00 | PC-01 | PM-00 | PRS-00 |
| | ACE-00 | P-00 | SP-00 | TRSE-00 | USIE-00 | EPAE-00 | PMB-00 |
| | DSCC-00 | DRL-02 | G-00 | NFAT-00 | SAS-00 | SWCI-00 | /007W |

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FM AMEMBASSY HARARE
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 0186
INFO NSC WASHDC PRIORITY
SOUTHERN AFRICAN DEVELOPMENT COMMUNITY
AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

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SIPDIS

NSC FOR SENIOR AFRICA DIRECTOR JENDAYI FRAZER
LONDON FOR CHARLES GURNEY
PARIS FOR CHARLES NEARY
NAIROBI FOR TERRY PFLAUMER

E.O. 12958: DECL: 11/02/11
TAGS: [PGOV](#) [PREL](#) [PINR](#) [ZI](#)
SUBJECT: ZIMBABWE RULING PARTY DUE TO TABLE LEGISLATION
BANNING POLITICAL FUNDING OF NGOS

CLASSIFIED BY POLITICAL OFFICER TODD FAULK FOR REASONS:
1.5 (B) AND (D).

11. (C) IN A LUNCH MEETING WITH POLOFF NOVEMBER 1, NEW DEPUTY JUSTICE MINISTER PAUL MANGWANA -- AND ZANU-PF MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT -- REVEALED THAT HIS MINISTRY IS CURRENTLY DRAFTING LEGISLATION THAT WOULD BAN FOREIGN FUNDING CHANNELED THROUGH NGOS FOR "POLITICAL TASKS," SUCH AS VOTER EDUCATION. HOWEVER, THE LEGISLATION WOULD CLEARLY EXEMPT MONEY HEADED TO NGOS FOR USE IN HUMANITARIAN EFFORTS, MANGWANA SAID. A PREVIOUS BILL THAT WOULD BAN ALL FOREIGN FUNDING OF NGOS IS NO LONGER UNDER CONSIDERATION. THE DEPUTY MINISTER INTIMATED THAT THE BILL IS DESIGNED TO PROTECT ZIMBABWE'S SOVEREIGNTY. IT IS NOT FOR FOREIGN GOVERNMENTS TO INTERFERE IN ZIMBABWE'S ELECTORAL PROCESSES; IT IS UP TO THE GOVERNMENT OF ZIMBABWE ALONE TO "EDUCATE" VOTERS, HE STATED. THE JUSTICE MINISTRY IS PLANNING ON SUBMITTING THE BILL TO PARLIAMENT BY DECEMBER SO THAT IT CAN BE PASSED BEFORE THE CHRISTMAS RECESS, MANGWANA CONCLUDED.

12. (C) COMMENT: BY DUMPING A BLANKET BAN ON FOREIGN NGO FUNDING AND DIFFERENTIATING BETWEEN "POLITICAL" AND "HUMANITARIAN" NGOS IN NEW LEGISLATION, THE GOZ APPEARS TO BE BOWING TO THE REALITY OF LOOMING FOOD SHORTAGES IN THE COUNTRY AND THE NEED FOR FOREIGN NGO HELP. IT IS UNCLEAR WHETHER FUNDING FOR SPECIFIC NGOS WILL BE BANNED, OR JUST CATEGORIES OF ORGANIZATIONS. IT IS ALSO UNCLEAR HOW "POLITICAL TASKS" MAY BE DEFINED IN THE FINAL LEGISLATION. IN ANY CASE, IT WILL PROBABLY PROVE IMPOSSIBLE FOR THE GOZ TO TRACK HOW FOREIGN FUNDS GOING TO ZIMBABWEAN NGOS ARE USED -- ALL IT WILL NEED IS A

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LEGAL PRETEXT AND A SUSPICION TO SHUT DOWN ORGANIZATIONS ENGAGED IN ACTIVITIES IT CONSIDERS A THREAT TO ITS CONTINUED HOLD ON POWER. END COMMENT.

13. (U) BIO NOTE: PAUL MANGWANA, THE ZANU-PF MP FOR KADOMA EAST, WAS MOVED FROM THE DEPUTY SLOT AT THE MINISTRY OF TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS TO THE RECONSTITUTED POSITION OF DEPUTY JUSTICE MINISTER IN THE JULY 2001 CABINET RESHUFFLE. MANGWANA, IN HIS LATE THIRTIES, CAN BE CONSIDERED A "YOUNG TURK" IN ZANU-PF WHO HAS ADMITTED THAT HE WOULD RATHER CHANGE THE SYSTEM FROM WITHIN THAN FROM WITHOUT. MANGWANA OWNS A CHICKEN-PRODUCTION BUSINESS AND IS WELL-OFF. THE DEPUTY MINISTER IS A LAWYER BY TRAINING AND ENTERED PRIVATE PRACTICE WITH CURRENT JUSTICE MINISTER PATRICK CHINAMASA IN 1986. HE WAS ELECTED TO PARLIAMENT FOR THE FIRST TIME IN 2000. END BIO NOTE.

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